

# A.Y. JACKSON 7<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL SCIENCE OLYMPICS

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The auditorium filled rapturous noise. The hallways filled with ecstatic teenagers. The classrooms filled with teachers and students awaiting the results. At the average high school, this may sound like a game day. But at A.Y. Jackson Secondary School it means that Science Olympics has begun. Science Olympics is an annual daylong event at A.Y. Jackson Secondary School.



On this day, students host science related competitions for prospective Jackson student. Their mission is to arouse the curiosity and interest of younger students by performing sensational experiments and hosting exceptional, engaging events. Science Olympics is a way to showcase all the unique opportunities the A.Y. Jackson Science department has to offer to our potential students. In recent years, Science Olympics has morphed into a school-wide event that sparks school spirit within every participant, student, and teacher.

On February 2nd, 2018, A.Y. Jackson hosted it's 7th annual Science Olympics. With the help of over 90 student volunteers and the teacher advisors A.Y. Jackson opened its doors to an unprecedented 250 middle school students. The day began with a captivating stage show.

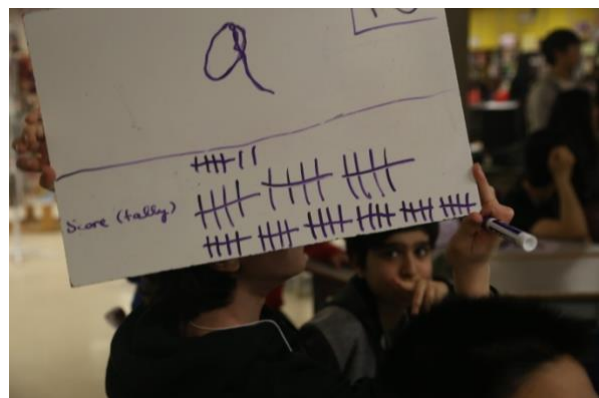


At the stage show, participants learn about chemistry and physics through interactive experiments lead by the volunteers. By the end of the show, participants have observed how pH indicators work. They know why Mentos reacts with Coke. They learn about Bernoulli's principle and its real-life applications. Their brains have gathered all this new information, and they have a blast doing it.





The fun did not stop with there. After the show, participants split into teams, and are taken to one of the 5 different stations that set up all over the school. Each station had multiple competitive events where students get to apply the science they have been learning at school, while learning new concepts. For example, participants solve a murder mystery while learning about blood testing.



The day ended with the awards ceremony, where one school is crowned victorious. Yet, all participants and volunteers leave content because it was an unforgettable day.



Participants aren't the only ones who find Science Olympics to be an unforgettable experience. The volunteers also find Science Olympics to be one of these most memorable experiences of high school. When asked why she believes Science Olympics is important, Valerie Ngai, an event coordinator, said, "[Science Olympics] increases school spirit because we are known for it... plus who doesn't love science!". Furthermore, the

students of A.Y. Jackson believe that Science Olympics encourages interest in science courses. Kevin Mu is a member of the organizing committee and Science Olympics alum. When asked why he got involved with Science Olympics, he stated "[Science Olympics] get kids interested in science while they were young, and makes them excited for high school. It definitely did that for me, which is why I choose to join the organising committee." Science Olympics is a day that has been embedded into A.Y. Jackson's DNA, and is a rewarding and unforgettable experience for Jackson students.

Science Olympics has stood the test of time and continues to grow every year. It is a unique and rewarding opportunity for students to give back to their middle schools and community. The positive spirit of Science Olympics is derived from the positive spirit of the Jackson students and faculty, who never fail to produce an engaging and exciting day for the community.